RESEARCH REPORT

Ensina sonchi (Linnaeus) in South America (Diptera: Tephritidae)

George C. Steyskal

Systematic Entomology Laboratory, Agricultural Research Service, USDA.
Mail address: c/o U.S. National Museum, Washington, D.C. 20560

ABSTRACT

Protensina brevior Hennig and *P. hyalipennis* Hennig, both described from Peru, are synonymized with *Ensina sonchi* (Linnaeus). The total distribution of *E. sonchi* is cited.

Ensina sonchi (Linnaeus), the type–species of its genus, is cited by Hendel (1927: 172) as distributed throughout Europe. It has since been recorded from Japan, the Ryukyu Islands, and Taiwan (Ito, 1950, 1952; Okadome, 1962; Shiraki, 1968), the latter author adding *Ensina lacteipennis* Hendel (1915: 464), described from Taiwan, to its already extensive list of synonyms. The larva of *E. sonchi* develops in the flower heads of many species of Compositae.

Hendel (1914a: 95) described the genus *Protensina* in his key to the genera of Tephritidae, with the type and sole species *P. longiceps* merely cited as "n. sp." without further description, a practice valid at that time. Six weeks later (Hendel 1914b: 64) a description of the species, including a figure of the head, was published. Apparently the original 3 males from Cuzco and Laris Valley, Peru, are still the only basis of our knowledge of the species. The genus *Protensina* was distinguished from *Ensina* only by its much longer head, nearly twice as long as high and projecting a considerable distance before the eyes, but is apparently thereby sufficiently distinct from *Ensina* to be considered a genus.

Hennig (1940)[1] described 2 additional species of *Protensina, P. brevior* (p. 12) and *P. hyalipennis* (p. 13), both from Cuzco, Peru, very similar to each other and with heads not over 1.25 times as long as high. On the basis of comparison of material in the

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[1] Although the text under *Protensina* species in this publication is attributed to Hennig, there is some doubt whether or not according to the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature the species ought to be credited to Hering. The first paragraph (my translation from German) states: The 2nd and 3rd species of this interesting genus have been established by Dr. W. Hennig (Dahlem) in material of the Museum für Tierkunde in Dresden; he has also defined the differences between them and the Hendelian species. Since the publication of the descriptions has not ensued, he has requested me to undertake it. The differences from the known species, together with which they were captured at the same place, may be gotten from the following comparison: . . .

U.S. National Museum determined as *Ensina sonchi* from Europe and Hawaii with the several descriptions and with 3 pairs of specimens from Peru (Lima; Monsefú) I must consider both *P. brevior* and *P. hyalipennis* as falling within the range of variation of *Ensina sonchi* and therefore *new synonyms* of that species. Even in our European material there is a fair amount of variation in the extent of dark coloration of the body, wings, and vestiture, some of which has been noted in the descriptions of the species and its European synonyms. Detailed descriptions of *Ensina sonchi* are to be found in Hendel (1927: 171) and Shiraki (1968: 82).

Hering (1941: 151) keyed the 3 species referred to *Protensina* as a subgenus of *Ensina* and added records for *P. hyalipennis* from Arica, Chile, and La Paz, Bolivia. Foote (1967) treated *Protensina* as a genus, including the 3 species *longiceps, brevior,* and *hyalipennis.* The name *hyalipennis* is preoccupied in the genus *Ensina* by that of an African species, *Ensina hyalipennis* Bezzi (1924: 549).

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